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25X1

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

25X1

25X1

KENYA:

25X1

25X1

USSR-BERLIN: Four-power talks (Page 10)

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP79T00975A017500020002-4

Next 8 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP79T00975A017500020002-4

KENYA:

25X1

Since the legislative elections last December, many members of parliament have been highly critical of government policies and have been pushing for more social services and a hard look at ties with the British.

Kenyatta seems in no danger of being overwhelmed by this wave of dissension. He remains in good health despite his age and is still popular with important parts of the population. The government appears to be pre-empting some of its critics' ground by taking a tougher line than usual in negotiations with the British, by seeking part ownership in some foreign-owned firms, and by assuming a leadership role in moves to prevent arms sales to South Africa.

If the President should die in the next few months, it seems likely that those vying for power would indeed court public support by attacking the British. The US, although not nearly so heavily involved, might also become a target.

25X1

NOTES

USSR-BERLIN: Soviet representatives were affable but had little of substance to offer at a meeting of ambassadorial advisers on 30 October. Their main interest at the meeting, which was preparatory to the next four-power ambassadorial meeting on 4 November, was in pressing for a shortening of the intervals between ambassadorial sessions. They proposed that the ambassadors meet at least twice in November, rather than at monthly intervals as has been the practice. This proposal follows by a day the East German offer to discuss Berlin issues privately with Bonn, suggesting that the Soviets and their allies are making a concerted effort to test the Western position on Berlin.

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